

## RECREATION & PARKS DEPARTMENT

Berlin Recreation's goal to continually offer new activities certainly was met in fiscal year 2014. Thanks to dedicated volunteers, organizations, and committed Recreation and other city employees, Berlin Recreation saw an increase to its already busy schedule. Some noteworthy events included:

*Clay Sculpting* – Nine children, ages 6 – 10 were introduced to the art of flat service terra cotta sculpting from renowned local artist and retired college instructor Jean Bartoli. We hope to continue this new exploration into the art of 3-D sculpting.



Artist Jean Bartoli teaching students 3-D sculpting

### *Spring Opening of Friendship Park*

Playground equipment was installed and a "Name the Park" contest held for the newly developed park at the corner of Mason and Granite Streets. The prize of a bicycle and helmet (helmet - a donation from Kiwanis Club) was awarded to contest winner 3<sup>rd</sup> grader Isaiah Waninger.

This park was developed through a collaborative effort of the HEAL (Healthy Eating, Active Living) Grant committee members and Berlin City departments. With raised garden beds being developed in the park, we hope this will be a new park enjoyed by residents of all ages.



Isaiah Waninger receiving bike & helmet for naming Friendship Park. With Isaiah, Heal Committee members Cimbria Badenhausen, Health & Welfare Director Angela Martin-Giroux, and Recreation Program Director Terry Letarte. Photo courtesy of Barbara Tetreault, *Berlin Daily Sun*

*Young Athletes Program* – Thanks to the volunteer efforts of Leader Jennifer Buteau as well as parent coaches, 13 children ages 4 – 7 had their first adventure into sports. This free, five-week program, as part of NH Special Olympics, offered children, (some with, some without developmental disabilities) an opportunity to play alongside each other promoting physical, cognitive, and social development.



Sensory game with parent coach Roland Arsenault

*Portable Basketball Systems* – A slight dilemma developed for Berlin Recreation

when Berlin Public Schools decided to offer basketball programs for their third grade students. With Recreation now concentrating on the 2<sup>nd</sup> grade and younger set, we knew the difficulty of reaching 10' high baskets would be too frustrating for the children.



Hearing of this predicament, Mr. Mike Morin & Mr. Brian Boucher donated a child's size basketball hoop system for the very young while the Fraternal Order of Eagles quickly came through with a donation to offset the cost of two portable basketball systems that easily adjust to just over six feet. Now children of all ages are excited about being able to hit "nothing but net."

These new events compliment the 30 plus activities Berlin Recreation offers to area residents yearly. While standbys such as soccer, baseball, ski and snowboard continue to provide residents recreational opportunities, we always strive to find new and exciting activities for the community.

Respectfully Submitted,  
*Theresa (Terry) Letarte*  
*Recreation Program Director*

**NOTICE REGARDING INVOLUNTARILY MERGED  
LOTS IN THE CITY OF BERLIN, NH**

To any property owner in the City of Berlin who feels their property has been merged as the result of an involuntary merger which mean lots being merged by municipal action for zoning, assessing, or taxation purposes without the consent of the owner.

If your lots or parcels were involuntarily merged prior to September 18, 2010 by the City of Berlin, the City shall at the request of the owner, restore your lots to their premerger status and all zoning and tax maps shall be updated to identify the premerger boundaries of said lots or parcels as recorded at the Coos County Registry of Deeds, provided that your request is submitted to the governing body prior to December 31, 2016. Also no owner in the chain of title can have voluntarily merged his or her lots. If any owner in the chain of title voluntarily merged his or her lots, then all subsequent owners shall be prevented from requesting restoration. The municipality shall have the burden of proof to show that any previous owner voluntarily merged his or her lots. All decisions of the governing body may be appealed in accordance with the provisions of NH RSA 676. The restoration of the lots to their premerger status shall not be deemed to cure any non-conformity with existing local land use ordinances.

If you have questions about the status of your property and whether it has been merged involuntarily please call Susan Warren, Assessing Supervisor at 752-5245 or Pamela Laflamme, City Planner at 752-8587. [RSA 674:39 aa Regulation of Subdivision of Land](#)